

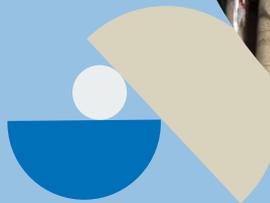
# Risky times for the road ahead?

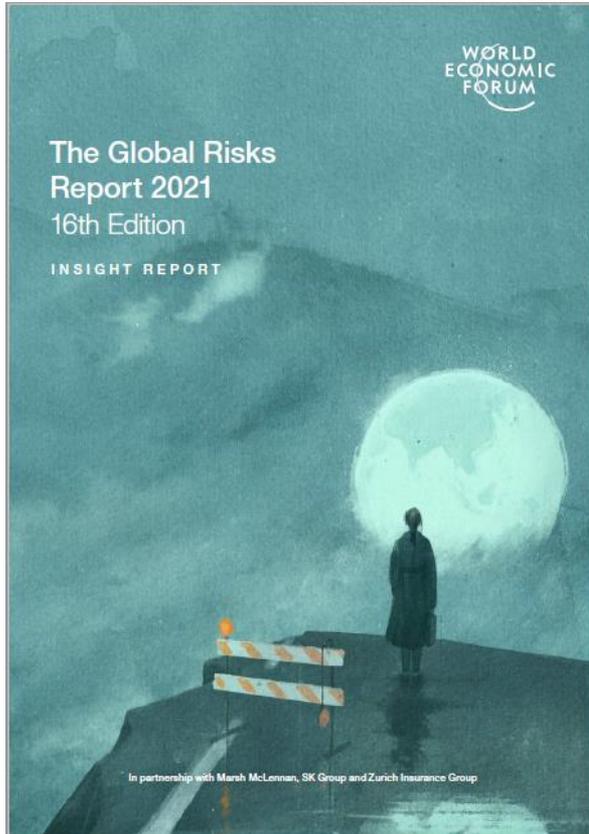
The Global Risks Report 2021

29<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Alix Bedford

Zurich Municipal

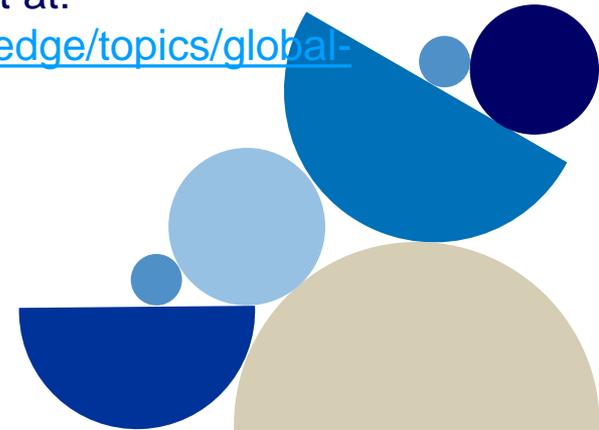




- The 16<sup>th</sup> edition of the Global Risks Report identified and discusses the many challenges and key risks presented in the decade head.
- COVID-19 has changed the global risk landscape. Risks have been reprioritised, new risks have emerged, and others have been intensified.

Download a full copy of the report at:

<https://www.zurich.com/en/knowledge/topics/global-risks/the-global-risks-report-2021>



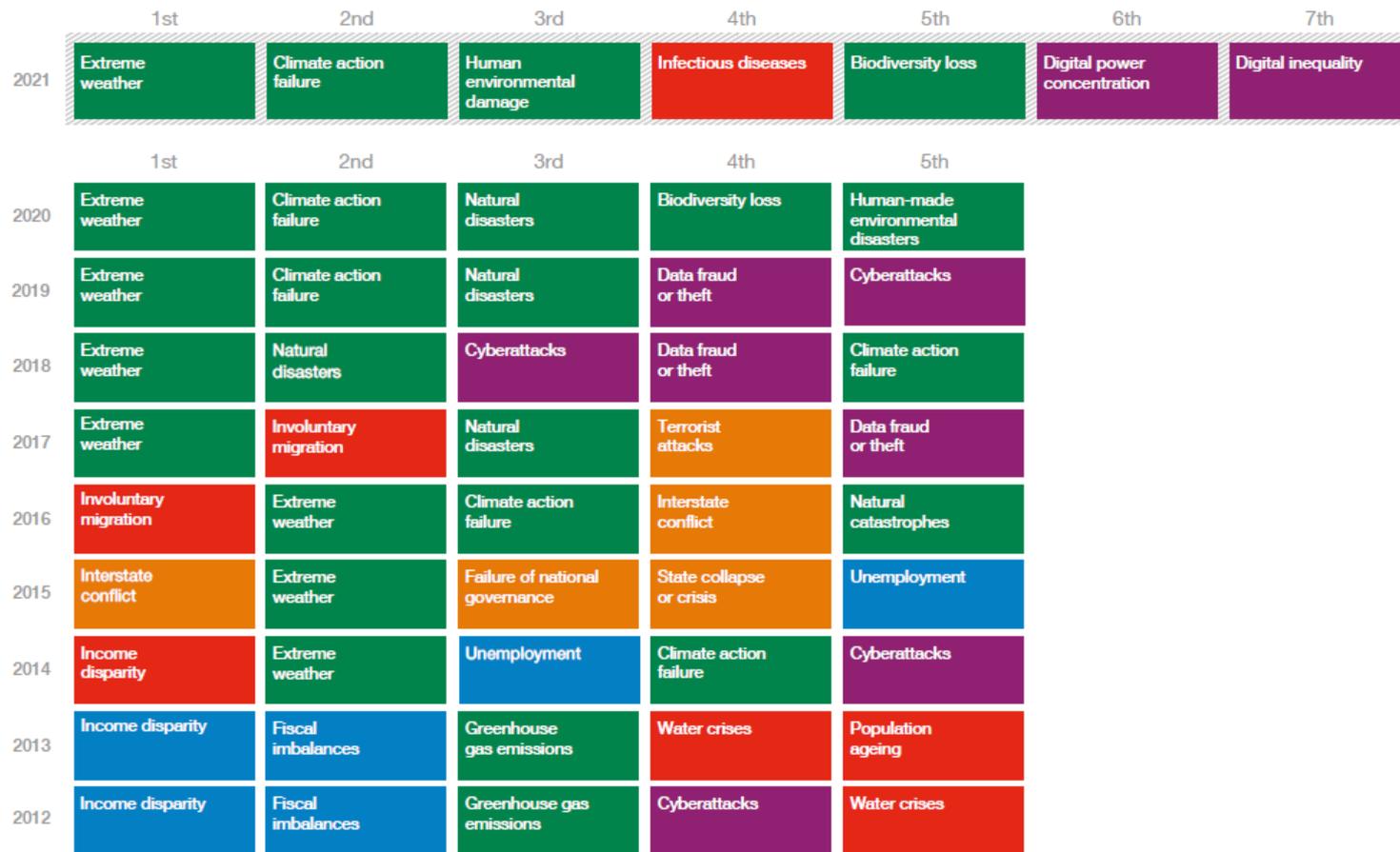
# Evolving Risks Landscape

## Top Global Risks by Impact



# Evolving Risks Landscape

## Top Global Risks by Likelihood



Rank	Top Risks by Likelihood	Top Risks by Impact
#1	● Extreme weather	● Infectious diseases
#2	● Climate action failure	● Climate action failure
#3	● Human environmental damage	● Weapons of mass destruction
#4	● Infectious diseases	● Biodiversity loss
#5	● Biodiversity loss	● Natural resource crises
#6	● Digital power concentration	● Human environmental damage
#7	● Digital inequality	● Livelihood crises
#8	● Interstate relations fracture	● Extreme weather
#9	● Cybersecurity failure	● Debt crises
#10	● Livelihood crises	● IT Infrastructure breakdown

## 0-2 years: The immediate risks



**58%**  
Infectious  
diseases



**55.1%**  
Employment  
& livelihood  
crises



**52.7%**  
Extreme  
weather  
events



**39%**  
Failure of  
cybersecurity  
measures



**38.3%**  
Digital  
inequality



**38.3%**  
Prolonged  
economic  
stagnation



Cybercriminals are exploiting the pandemic in several ways.



For example, demand for information on the new virus and financial responses to it,



accompanied by fear, confusion and even the boredom of confinement,



have multiplied opportunities for cybercriminals to defraud government emergency funding schemes, deliver malware, ransomware or encourage phishing scams.



explains **John Scott** Head of Sustainability Risk at Zurich Insurance Group (Zurich).



Widespread lockdowns mean many people are relying on the internet to enable them to work, to access education, health and financial services, and to even interact with others. Yet, hundreds of millions of people around the globe don't have access to the internet,

explains **John Scott**, Head of Sustainability Risk at Zurich Insurance Group

## 3-5 years: The knock-on effects



**53.3%**  
Asset bubble  
burst in large  
economies



**53.3%**  
Breakdown of  
critical information  
infrastructure



**52.9%**  
Failure to  
stabilize price  
trajectories



**52.7%**  
Severe  
commodity  
shocks



**52.3%**  
Debt crisis  
in large  
economies

## 5-10 years: Existential concerns



**62.7%**  
Weapons  
of mass  
destruction



**51.8%**  
State  
collapse



**51.2%**  
Biodiversity loss  
and ecosystem  
collapse



**50.2%**  
Adverse outcomes  
of technological  
advances



**43.9%**  
Natural  
resource  
crises



## Inequality

COVID-19 could widen the gap between the 'haves' and 'have-nots' causing billions of people to miss out on future opportunities in

- Health outcomes
- Technology
- Workforce

## Digital

The pandemic uncovered a digital divide as we were forced to work, learn, communicate and access health and financial services online and left us more exposed to cyberattack.

## Environmental

Environmental risks continue to threaten: they remain top risks by likelihood and impact in this year's survey

Climate  
Change

Technology  
advancements

Economy and  
industrial  
landscape

Rising  
inequality

Rising cyber  
dependency

Resilience

Thank you

[alexandra.bedford@uk.zurich.com](mailto:alexandra.bedford@uk.zurich.com)

